

Appln No. 10/760,209
Amdt. Dated February 17, 2005
Response to Office Action of December 27, 2005

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the Examiner's first Office Action of December 27, 2005 the Applicant respectfully submits the accompanying Amendment to the claims and the below Remarks.

Regarding Amendment

In the Amendment:

independent claim 1 is amended to clarify that the support member of the printhead module is elongate and that the printhead module is removably mounted to the casing at the support member. Support for this amendment can be found, for example, at page 6, line 9-page 7, line 28 and in Fig. 3 of the present application; and dependent claims 2-6 are unchanged.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments do not add new matter to the present application.

Regarding 35 USC 102(b) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2, 3, 4 and 6 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by Silverbrook (US 6,916,082), for at least the following reasons.

In the present invention, each printhead module 30 has two or more printhead tiles/integrated circuits 50,51 arranged on a fluid channel member 40. The printhead modules are longitudinally assembled within a casing 20 to form a pagewidth printhead by removably mounting the fluid channel members in a channel 21 of the casing. By configuring and mounting the modules in this way, scalability of the printhead assembly is provided without the need to redesign the printing fluid distribution arrangement (see page 6, line 9-page 7, line 28, page 9, lines 28-36, and Fig. 3 of the present application).

On the other hand, Silverbrook discloses an arrangement in which each printhead module 46 has a single printhead chip 186 mounted on a carrier 187 which merely defines an electrical connection zone for the chip. Each carrier is mounted to a channel 62 of the chassis 60 within which is mounted individual ink distribution arrangements 72 for each of the modules, as is clearly illustrated in Fig. 8 of Silverbrook. Each module may be individually removed from the channel and the respective ink distribution arrangement (see col. 5, lines 7-11 and 47-63, and col. 9, lines 1-12 of Silverbrook).

Thus, Silverbrook does not disclose an arrangement in which each module has more than one printhead chip mounted to a single elongate support member which is then removably mounted to the casing of the printhead assembly, as is required in amended independent claim 1.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-6 dependent therefrom, is not disclosed by Silverbrook.

Regarding 35 USC 103(a) Rejections

It is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of dependent claim 5 is not taught or suggested by Silverbrook, for at least the following reasons.

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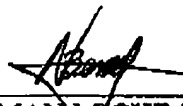
The disclosure of Silverbrook does not teach or suggest one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the disclosed assembly, because Silverbrook specifically teaches that the modularity of the assembly is provided by the individual removability of the modules from the chassis and ink distribution arrangements.

Thus, the subject matter of amended independent claim 1, and claims 2-6 dependent therefrom, is not taught or suggested by Silverbrook.

It is respectfully submitted that all of the Examiner's rejections have been traversed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Very respectfully,
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